

## REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 14 and 22-23 without prejudice. Claims 15-21 are pending. Claims 15-17 and 19 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Claims 19-21 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of their base claim. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 19-21.

### Claim Objections

The instant Office Actions states that Claim 15 is objected to. Claim 15 is amended to correct the cited informality.

### 112 Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. As amended herein, Claims 17-18 comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

### 103 Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsung Pan (U.S. Patent No. 4,894,664), Miller, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,679,593) and Gilbert et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,773,326).

As mentioned above, Claim 19 is allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim (Claim 14) and any intervening claims (there are none). Accordingly, the amended Claim 19 is in condition for allowance. By virtue of their dependency on Claim 19, Claims 15-18 are also in condition for allowance.

Therefore, a discussion of the rejection of Claim 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is rendered moot at this time.

Conclusions

Based on the remarks and amendments presented above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the present Application. Applicants point out that no contested claims remain in the present Application.


Applicants have reviewed the reference cited but not relied upon. Applicants did not find this reference to show or suggest the present claimed invention: JP 59-124871.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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